(c) since when ASI's yearly publication has stopped to come out?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) All the excavations conducted by the Archaeological Survey of India upto 1994-95 have been duly reported in the "Indian Archaeology—A Review". Thirty four comprehensive reports and 12 reports on specific categories of excavated material have been published by the ASI.

(b) The Archaeological Survey of India scrupulously follows well established standards for conducting excavations. These standards are: stratigraphical digging, scientific study of strata and structures, collection of samples for further scientific investigations/analyses, thorough documentation by photography and drawings of the excavated relics as well as of sections showing stratigraphy of layers.

(c) The ASI's yearly publication have not ceased to come out. The latest in this series is for the year 1994-95.

Construction of Yatri Niwas in NE Region

3232. SHRI NABAM REBIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme and programme for construction of Yatri Niwas at various places in the States of NER during the year 2000-2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the total fund allocation for the same; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) The Central Government has a scheme for providing financial assistance to State Governments/UT Administrations for construction of Yatri Niwases at various places in the country. Such projects are identified and prioritised every year in consultation with the State Govts./Union Territories.

(b) to (d) During 2000-2001, the Central Department of Tourism in consultation with the State Governments of North-Eastern region has prioritised 29 project proposals pertaining to construction of budget accommodation for an amount of Rs. 918.15 lakhs as central

component including construction of a Yatri Niwas at parsuram Kund in Arunachal Pradesh at a total cost of Rs. 30.00 lakhs with central component of Rs. 24.00 lakhs.

Bulk purchase of books from writers

3233. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to assist the writers through bulk purchase of books;

(b) if so, what was the allocation made during the last three financial years;

(c) what is the proportion of funds allotted for southern languages; and

(d) whether there is any other scheme through which the writers are encouraged by bulk purchases?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) There is no scheme (under the Deptt. of Culture) to assist writers directly through bulk purchase of books. However, the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, Calcutta, a fully funded autonomous body under the Deptt. of Culture, Govt. of India which is engaged in the development of Public Library services and in the promotion of reading habits all over the country purchases books under its schemes of (1) book assistance, (2) the scheme for financial assistance for Voluntary Organizations and (3) the scheme for children's libraries.

(b) Year-wise expenditure incurred during the last three years for purchase of books is given below:

1997-98 Rs. 326.37 lakh
1998-99 Rs. 532.81 lakh
1999-2000 Rs. 438.11 lakh

(c) During 2000-01 26% has been earmarked for purchase of books for the Southern Region.

(d) There is no such scheme.